Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/824,997	LEVESQUE ET AL.
	Examiner	**Art Unit**
	El Hadji M Sall	2157

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>02 April 2001</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-18</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-18</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

1.   **DETAILED ACTION**

This action is responsive to the correspondence filed on April 2, 2001. Claims 1-
20 are pending. Claims 1-20 filtering network management messages.

2.   *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112*

Claims 1, 3, 9, 14 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph,
as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject
matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1, 3, 9, 14 and 18 recite the limitations the client console(s) in lines 6-7,
12-13, 6-7, 7-8 and 9-10. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the
claim.

3.   *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a
foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year
prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4.   Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable over
Abraham et al. U.S. 5,983,270.

Doolan teaches the invention as claimed including gateway for using legacy telecommunications network element equipment with a common management information protocol (abstract).

As to claims 1, 9 and 13, Doolan teaches a method, logic and an apparatus for processing a network management message comprising:

Receiving a network management message (column 4, lines 16-18, Doolan discloses the command module receives a first syntax command from the source identifying a particular one of said network elements; column 4, lines 47-48, Doolan discloses a gateway according to the present invention receives a first message from the source. The first message being in a first syntax and identifying a particular one of the network elements);

Parsing the network management message into a plurality of fields (column 4, lines 18-20, Doolan discloses selects a dictionary from a plurality of dictionaries in response to the network element identification; column 14, line 54 to column 15, line 25, Doolan discloses the following structure represents a TL1 message that is sent and received across the legacy syntax application interface and IPC 326...); and

For each of a plurality of client consoles each having filtering criteria, if the fields satisfy the filtering criteria, communicating the fields to the client console for display by one of the plurality of client console (column 4, lines 33-37, Doolan discloses an intelligent alarm filter for selectively filtering alarms received by the gateway from network elements so that a selected first subset of alarms are passed to the mapper and a second set of alarms are not passed to the mapper; column 22, lines 17-28, Doolan discloses... IAF 316 could be used to filter messages using other criteria; for example, only messages from certain TIDS, certain errors, certain events, etc. Using a graphic interface allows a user to view all alarms or only the filtered).

As to claims 2 and 10, Doolan teaches the method and the logic of claims 1 and 9, wherein the network management message comprises American Standard Code for

Information Interchange (ASCII) text (column 5, lines 37-39, Doolan discloses Each TL1 message is expressed in American Standard Code for Information Interchange (ASCII) characters).

As to claim 3, Doolan teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the filtering criteria for each of the plurality of client consoles comprise a message type (column 5, lines 39-41, Doolan discloses TL1 specifies four types of messages: commands, acknowledgements, responses and autonomous messages).

As to claim 4, Doolan teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the filtering criteria for each of the client consoles comprises a user type for the client console (column 12, lines 6-7, Doolan discloses Realistically, there are many different types of network elements).

As to claims 5, 11 and 15, Doolan teaches the method, the logic and the apparatus of claims 1, 9 and 14, wherein the filtering criteria comprises a message type and user type, and the fields satisfy the filtering criteria if a value for a selected one of the fields matches the message type and the user type (column 21, lines 11-23, Doolan discloses... Mapper 300 would simply set a command type for the alarm for notification to the agent, and based on the TID that came with the alarm, access the appropriate dictionary and translate the TL1 alarm to CMIP...)).

As to claims 6, 12 and 16, Doolan teaches the method, the logic and the apparatus of claims 1, 9 and 14, further comprising:
Receiving a request from a new client console, the request comprising an identifier for a new client console filtering options selected for the new client console (column 19, lines 24-42, Doolan discloses... Each queue entry will include state information comprising the CMIP reference number, a command type, the object class of the message request, the name of the attributes of the object class and any other data relative to the service...);

. Determining a user type for the new client console based on the identifier (column 21, lines 11-23, Doolan discloses...Mapper 300 would simply set a command type for the alarm for notification to the agent, and based on the TID that came with the alarm, access the appropriate dictionary and translate the TL1 alarm to CMIP. If an acknowledgement is received in response to a command it is analyzed to determine if the command was accepted or rejected...); and

Generating filtering for the new client console based on the filtering options and the user type (column 12, lines 13-32, Doolan discloses...Intelligent alarm filter 316 categorizes and logs incoming alarms so that only a subset of alarms are passed to mapper 300. Intelligent alarm filter 316 may also include a graphic user interface).

As to claim 7, Doolan teaches the method of claim 6, further comprising generating an entry in a filter table comprising identifier and the filtering criteria (column 22, lines 17-28, Doolan discloses... IAF 316 could be used to filter messages using other criteria; for example, only messages from certain TIDS, certain errors, certain events, etc. Using a graphic interface allows a user to view all alarms or only the filtered).

As to claims 8, 13 and 17, Doolan teaches the method, the logic and the apparatus of claims 1, 13 and 17, wherein the network management message comprises a response from a command issued by a client, further comprising:

Determining a message identifier from the fields (column 19, lines 35-38, Doolan discloses The queue entry will also include a legacy syntax message identification which is a unique identifier for the legacy syntax command that will be sent from the mapper to the legacy network element);

Determining a client identifier associated with the message identifier (column 19, lines 38-42, Doolan disclose For TL1, the legacy syntax message identification is called a CTAG. Thus, when the legacy network element responds, the response will also include that CTAG so mapper 300 will be able to access and match the proper entry in the queue);

Identifying the client based on the client identifier (column 12, lines 41-43, Doolan discloses The TID is a network element identification used to uniquely identify every network element);

Generating a second message comprising the fields and the client identifier (column 4, lines 47-56, Doolan disclose...The TID is a network element identification used to uniquely identify every network element...); and

Communicating the second message to the client (column 4, lines 53-54, Doolan discloses transmits the second message to the identified network element).

5.   *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

6.   Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Doolan U.S. 5,764,955 in view of Gupta et al. U.S. 6,731,627.

Doolan teaches the invention as claimed including gateway for using legacy telecommunications network element equipment with a common management information protocol (abstract).

As to claim 18, Doolan teaches a communication system:

The server operable to determine fields for a transaction language 1 (TL1) command to generate the TL1 command using the fields, to communicate the TL1 command to the network element, and, for each of a plurality of client consoles each having filtering criteria, if the fields satisfy the filtering criteria, to communicate the fields to one of the plurality of client console for display by one of the plurality of client console (column 14, line 54 to column 16, line 9, Doolan discloses the following structure represents a TL1 message that is sent and received across the legacy syntax application interface and IPC 326...; column 4, lines 33-37, Doolan discloses an intelligent alarm filter for selectively filtering alarms received by the gateway from network elements so that a selected first subset of alarms are passed to the mapper and a second set of alarms are not passed to the mapper; column 22, lines 17-28, Doolan discloses... IAF 316 could be used to filter messages using other criteria; for example, only messages from certain TIDS, certain errors, certain events, etc. Using a graphic interface allows a user to view all alarms or only the filtered).

Doolan fails to teach explicitly CORBA command.

However, Gupta teaches virtual loop carrier system. Gupta teaches CORBA server (figure 28, item 386).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Doolan in view of Gupta to provide the server operable to receive the CORBA command, to determine fields for a transaction language 1 (TL1) command based on the CORBA command, to generate the TL1 command using the fields, to communicate the TL1 command to the network element, and, for each of a plurality of client consoles each having filtering criteria, if the fields satisfy the filtering criteria, to communicate the fields to the client console for display by the client console. One would be motivated to do so to allow applications to communicate with each other regardless of their location or who design them).

Doolan fails to teach explicitly a client operable to generate a common object request broker architecture (CORBA) command targeted at a network element and to communicate the CORBA command to a server.

However, Gupta teaches a CORBA-based client in communication with a CORBA-based server (column 2, lines 42-45, Gupta discloses a network element includes a Common Object Request Broker Architecture (CORBA)-based server, CORBA-based managed objects accessible by the CORBA-based server and a CORBA-based applications programming interface (API)).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Abraham in view of Gupta to provide a common object request broker architecture (CORBA) command targeted at a network element and to communicate the CORBA command to a server. One would be motivated to do so to allow a greater overall system reliability and availability (column 40, line 29).

7.   *Conclusion*

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to El Hadji M Sall whose telephone number is 571-272-4010. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on 571-272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-4010.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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